



Dear Friend,

First and foremost, I want to wish you a wonderful and safe Thanksgiving holiday.

The “Action Summary Report” from the Board’s Business Meeting on Wednesday, November 6 has been posted at Chairmanyork.wordpress.com. If you wish to read staff reports on any specific item go to: [Business Meeting Packets](#). The next Business Meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 4 starting at 4:00 p.m. The next Board of Supervisor’s Public Hearing will be held on Wednesday, December 11 starting at 6:00 p.m.

Countywide Reminders:

Blanket Drive:

On my recent delegation trip organized by the American Turkish Friendship Association (ATFA), I had the opportunity to visit a Syrian refugee camp outside of Adana, Turkey. Without going into details, our visit to the refugee camp to say the least was a humbling experience. Around 12,000 Syrians are living in tents in the Adana refugee camp which is one of several camps in Turkey. After our visits to the camp and a relief organization, our delegation decided to hold a Regional Blanket Drive as the need for blankets during the winter is grave.

We are looking for new and used blankets; used blankets should be in good condition, cleaned, and folded. Our goal is to fill a large shipping container that will be used to deliver the blankets to the refugees in Adana.

Those wishing to donate can drop off blankets at one of three Loudoun County sites:

*County Government Center – 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. weekdays
1 Harrison Street S.E.
Leesburg, Virginia 20175
Final collection at this location will be Friday, December 6*

*Sterling Offices of the Commission of Revenue – 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. weekdays
21641 Ridgetop Circle*

*Suite 100
Sterling, Virginia 20164*

*Purcellville Town Hall - 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. weekdays
221 South Nursery Avenue
Purcellville, VA 20132*

For more information regarding regional drop-off locations or to contribute a monetary donation, click here <http://hizmetrelief.org/syrian-refugees>

The final collection date will be Saturday, December 7 at the Sterling Office.



Connect Northern Virginia:

I am happy to announce the official launch of Connect Northern Virginia! This wonderful website will be an immense source of information for not only Loudoun County residents but those throughout the region. Connect Northern Virginia is an online, community platform that will help drive resources to address important community needs in Northern Virginia.

This website, which is now accessible at www.connectnorthernvirginia.org, will serve many audiences:

- **Corporate, foundation, government, and individual funders** can use Connect Northern Virginia to find information on a broad range of community needs – caring for an aging population, ensuring access to affordable housing, adult literacy and others. Funders can also use the website to research organizations they may want to support to help need these needs.
- **Nonprofit organizations** can use the website to reach out to new donors and volunteers and keep in touch with existing supporters.
- **University faculty** and students can learn about opportunities for volunteering, internships, and jobs, and find collaborators and useful information for research projects.
- The **broader community** can turn to Connect Northern Virginia to deepen understanding of community needs and gaps in services and find information about

nonprofit and other service providers.

Connect Northern Virginia will cover the counties of Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William; the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas, and Manassas Park; and other towns and jurisdictions within the region. The initial phase of the website development is focusing on Fairfax County and Loudoun County, although information is available on nonprofits in all jurisdictions.

I encourage Loudoun County residents to explore and use this amazing resource that is being managed and led by a small team at George Mason University's Center for Nonprofit Management, Philanthropic and Policy department.

Children's Science Center:

Northern Virginia is the largest region in the country without a children's museum or science center. A non-profit organization, the Children's Science Center, is dedicated to filling this gap and is passionately working on building a world-class museum offering hands-on exhibits and programs focusing on science, technology, engineering and math. The museum is planning for more than 40,000 square feet of fun and discovery, which will serve over 300,000 visitors annually and inspire generations of innovators for the future workforce. Currently, the organization offers its Museum Without Walls program to bring hands-on science activities to nearly 15,000 visitors each year. The organization is open to ideas, collaborations, awareness-outreach and questions from local stakeholders and businesses. Find out more at an upcoming information session, the next one is Wednesday, December 4 at 7:30 p.m. at their Herndon office, or visiting www.thechildrenssciencecenter.org.

Community Events:

Philip A. Bolen Memorial Park is holding a Winter Scout Jamboree for Boy Scouts & Girl Scouts on Saturday, December 7 from 11 a.m. - 10 p.m. Activities during the all-day jamboree will include badges, advancements, astronomy, snow sports, day and night hikes, games, crafts, and an evening sing-along. Register for activity #757700-01 (individuals) or #757700-02 (groups). Packs are encouraged to participate as a group. For more details, contact tina.driskell@loudoun.gov or call 571-258-3487.

Saturday, December 7 the Loudoun County Symphony Orchestra will hold their annual Holiday Concert at the Virginia Academy building beginning at 7:30 p.m. For more information regarding the Loudoun County Symphony Orchestra and the concert visit www.loudounsymphony.org.

For more community events around Loudoun visit www.visitloudoun.org.

Happy Thanksgiving,

Scott

To subscribe to this newsletter, [click here](#).

To unsubscribe from this list, [click here](#).